THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

SCOTLAND,

Conveened at *Edinburgh* the 12th Day of *May*, 1748.

Collected and extracted from the Records by the Clerk thereof.

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SCOTLAND

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Begun at *Edinburgh*, upon *Thursday* the 12th Day of *May* 1748, and concluded the 23d Day of the said Month and Year.

I.

The King's Commission to Alexander *Earl of* Leven *produced, and ordered to be recorded.*

THE General Assembly of this National Church being conveened and constituted, there was produced to them by the Right Honourable *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, his Majesty's Commission sealed with the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union, to be kept and used in *Scotland* in Place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and constituting him his Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative in this Assembly, of the same Tenor with the Commission granted to his Lordship last Year, and *anno* 1746, which Commission was publickly read with all due Honour and Respect, and appointed to be recorded in the Books of Assembly.

The

II.

The King's most gracious LETTER *to the General Assembly presented to them by His Majesty's Commissioner.*

Edinburgh, May 12*th* 1748. *Sess.* 1.

GEORGE R.

RIGHT Reverend and Well-beloved, We greet you well. The Zeal which you have, in all Times, shewn for the Support and Advancement of true Religion, and the Proofs We have had of your Loyalty and Affection for Our Person and Government, induce Us most readily to concur in this your present Meeting, and to countenance it with Our Approbation and Royal Authority, not doubting but you are assembled in the same Principles, and with a stedfast Purpose and Resolution to act in such Manner as may most effectually promote true Piety and Virtue; and you may depend upon Our firm Resolution to support and maintain the Church of *Scotland*, as by Law established, in the Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges. The Experience We have had of the Conduct of Our Right Trusty and entirely beloved Cousin *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, and of his Fidelity, Abilities, and Prudence, in the Discharge of so important a Trust, has induced Us to make choice of him again, on this Occasion, to represent Our Person. The Knowlege which you already have of his unshaken Attachment to Us and Our Government, as well as of his approved Zeal for the Church of *Scotland*, leaves Us no Room to doubt of his being acceptable to you. As the Advancement of true Religion and Piety is the chief View of your assembling at this Time, We have the firmest Confidence that nothing will be wanting, on your Part, for attaining so desirable an End; and so we bid you heartily farewell.

Given at Our Court at *St. James*'s the thirteenth Day of *April*, One thousand seven hundred and forty-eight, in the twenty-first Year of Our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command.

HOLIES NEWCASTLE.

III.

The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most gracious Letter.

Edinburgh, May 14th 1748. *Sess.* 3.

May it please your Majesty,

AMONG the many Occasions we have of rejoicing in your Majesty's happy Government, it is with the greatest Pleasure, that we have received your Majesty's most gracious Letter, and that we embrace this Opportunity of acknowledging your continued Goodness in countenancing our Meetings with your Approbation and Royal Authority.

It gives us a most sensible Satisfaction, that your Majesty is pleased to take such favourable Notice of the Principles and Dispositions we have shewn in our former Conduct, Loyalty and good Affection to your Royal Person and Government; we can never allow ourselves to separate from Zeal, for the Support and Advancement of true Religion, the Interests of which do so much depend, under God, on the Stability of your Throne, and the continued Succession to it, in your illustrious House. Such are the Principles and Sentiments which we resolve stedfastly to maintain in all our Proceedings; and we hope, by the divine Aid, to act in such a Manner at this Time, as at once to approve ourselves to God, and preserve the Place your Majesty is pleased to allow us in your Favour and good Opinion.

Your Majesty's Resolution to support and maintain the Church of *Scotland*, as by Law established, in the Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges, in which we have the firmest Confidence, strengthened by constant Experience, justly claims all that Gratitude and inviolable Allegiance, which is due to a Prince, who hath ever shewn that he esteems it the highest Glory of his Throne to be the Guardian of true Religion, and of the Laws and Liberties of his Kingdom.

The known Fidelity and firm Attachment of the Earl of *Leven* to your Majesty's Person and Government, with the Safety of which we justly reckon our most important publick Interests inseparably connected, and the sensible Proofs we have always had of his hearty Zeal for the Interests of this Church, must render your Majesty's repeated Choice of

him to repreſent your Royal Perſon in our Aſſembly moſt acceptable to us; and we cannot but conſider it as a particular Inſtance of your Royal Favour towards us, that you are pleaſed to continue one, in ſo important a Truſt, of whoſe Friendſhip and good Affection we have ſuch full Aſſurance.

We are ſenſible how much it is incumbent upon us to apply ourſelves, with the utmoſt Care and Attention, to the Advancement of true Religion and Piety, as the chief View of our aſſembling at this Time; and that Confidence in us, which your Majeſty is ſo good as to entertain, cannot fail to animate us with a due Concern, not to diſappoint your favourable Expectations.

The renewing of your Royal Donation, for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion in the Highlands and Iſlands of *Scotland*, we acknowledge, with all Thankfulneſs and dutiful Regard, as an Inſtance of your Majeſty's Fatherly Care of the remoteſt Parts of your Kingdom, and Concern for their moſt important Intereſts; and, as we are honoured with ſuch a Truſt, we muſt reckon ourſelves ſtrongly obliged to employ it, in the beſt Manner we can, for the Purpoſe of reforming thoſe barbarous Places from Impiety and Popiſh Superſtition, and from that Diſaffection to your Majeſty's Government, which is the unhappy Conſequence of Ignorance, Idleneſs, and a ſlaviſh Spirit.

We offer up our ſincere and thankful Acknowledgments to Almighty GOD, who hath hitherto protected your Majeſty's Perſon and Government, againſt all the wicked Deſigns and Attempts of your Enemies at home and abroad; and it is our moſt hearty and earneſt Prayer to GOD, in the Name of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, that he would multiply his beſt Bleſſings on your ſacred Head, and eſtabliſh your Throne in Righteouſneſs, that your Majeſty may be long preſerved to make your People happy, and to be the Guardian of the Proteſtant Intereſt, and of the Liberties of *Europe*; and that, by the Bleſſing of GOD on your wiſe Councils, and prudent Conduct, the Negotiations that are on foot, and the Steps that are taking toward a Peace may have the happieſt Iſſue; that he would bleſs, with his ſpecial Favour, their Royal Highneſſes the Prince and Princeſs of *Wales*, their Iſſue, and all the Royal Family, and make them glorious Inſtruments of the greateſt Good; that he would continue to protect his Royal Highneſs the Duke of *Cumberland*, and return him with Honour and Safety to his Country; and that, after your Majeſty hath enjoyed a long and proſperous Reign upon Earth, and hath acted the Part of a faithful Servant to the King of Kings, you may ſhine with diſtinguiſhed Glory in an heavenly Kingdom, and your Poſterity

ſterity may inherit your Crown, with your Virtues, to lateſt Ages. We are, with the ſincereſt Gratitude and moſt profound Reſpect,

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

Your Majeſty's moſt faithful, moſt obedient, and moſt loyal Subjects,

The Miniſters and Elders met in the National Aſſembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Preſence, and at our Appointment, by

GEORGE WISHART Moderator.

IV.

ACT concerning the Qualifications of Perſons claiming to vote in the Calling of Miniſters to vacant Pariſhes.

Edinburgh, *May* 18*th* 1748, *Seſſ.* 6.

THE General Aſſembly do enact, appoint and declare, that in the Moderation of Calls to Miniſters, for ſupplying vacant Pariſhes, no Perſons ſhall be admitted to vote, or, if claiming a Vote, ſhall have any Regard paid to their Voices, who have either twice heard Sermon in any Meeting or Congregation not allowed by the Laws, or attended Divine Worſhip perform'd by any Non-jurant Miniſter or Preacher profeſſing himſelf to be of the Epiſcopal Communion, or where his Majeſty King *George* and the Royal Family were not prayed for in expreſs Words, within twelve Kalendar Months, immediately preceeding the Vacancy of the Church to be ſupplied; or, who, during any Part of the ſaid twelve Kalendar Months, have received the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper diſpenſed by ſuch Miniſters, or, allowed their Children to be baptized by any of them; and that it ſhall be competent to prove the ſaid Facts by the judicial Declaration of the Perſon claiming a Vote, and objected to, or by any other Mean of Proof known and competent in Law; and that if the Perſon objected to, ſhall refuſe to give his Declaration, when required, he ſhall be held as confeſt. Further, that the propoſed Declaration, to be given by any Perſon claiming a Vote as above, ſhall contain

tain at Length the particular Exceptions, viz. *That they have not twice heard Sermon, or attended Divine Worſhip perform'd by a Non-jurant Miniſter or Preacher, profeſſing himſelf to be of the Epiſcopal Communion, in any Meeting or Congregation not allowed by the Laws; or, where his Majeſty King* George *and Royal Family were not prayed for in expreſs Words, within twelve Kalendar Months, immediately preceeding the Vacancy of the Church to be ſupplied; and, that they have not, during any Part of the ſaid Kalendar Months, received the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper diſpenſed by ſuch Miniſters, nor allowed their Children to be baptized by them*; and that the Declaration ſhall not be admitted upon its having Reference in general to theſe Exceptions.-----That no Proxy from any Perſon claiming a Vote ſhall be ſuſtained, unleſs there be annexed to the Commiſſion of Proxy, a ſubſcribed Declaration in the Terms above-mentioned; and that, tho' a Party do claim a Vote by a Proxy, and ſend a Declaration in Manner and Terms before-mentioned, yet, if any Perſon ſhall object to him, as falling under the Exceptions above-inſerted, it ſhall be competent to ſuch Perſon to bring a Proof of his Objection, notwithſtanding ſuch Declaration.

V.

Commiſſion to ſome Miniſters and Ruling Elders, for diſcuſſing Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, *May* 23*d* 1748, *Seſſ. ult.*

THE General Aſſembly conſidering, that there are diverſe Affairs which they cannot overtake, do hereby nominate, commiſſionate and appoint the Reverend Mr. *George Wiſhart* one of the Miniſters of Edinburgh their Moderator; and, from the Preſbytery of Dornoch, Mr. *Robert Kirk* at Dornoch, Mr. *John Sutherland* at Golſpie, Miniſters; *Andrew MacCulloch* Baillie of Dornoch, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of Tong, Mr. *Walter Roſs* at Tong, Mr. *Murdo MacDonald* at Duirneſs, Miniſters; Mr. *George MacKay* of Skibo, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of Caithneſs, Mr.

Mr. *John Sutherland* at Halkirk, Mr. *James Brodie* at Cannasbie, Miniſters; the Right Hon. the Lord *Murkle*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Kirkwall, Mr. *John Ballantine* at South Ronaldſhay, Mr. *Thomas Galloway* at St. Andrews, Miniſters. From the Presbytery of Cariſton, Mr. *Alexander Geddes* at Birſay, Mr. *John Reid* at Orphir, Miniſters; *Andrew Roſs*, Factor for the Earl of *Morton*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of North-Iſles, Mr. *Andrew Cowan* at Weſtray, Mr. *Robert Scollay* at Stronſay, Miniſters; *Jerom Denniſon* of Noutland, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Zetland, Mr. *William Gifford* at Northmaving, Mr. *John Bonar* at Fetlar, Miniſters; Sir *Andrew Mitchell* of Weſtſhoar, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Edinburgh, *Mr. John Mathiſon* at Edinburgh, Mr. *George Fordice* at Corſtorphin, Mr. *Robert Kinloch* at Edinburgh, Mr. *William Wiſhart* Principal of the College of Edinburgh, Mr. *Robert Hamilton* at Edinburgh, Mr. *William Aitken* at South Leith, Miniſters; the Right Hon. the Lord *Arniſtoun*, *James Milroy* one of the preſent Baillies of Edinburgh, *James Forreſt* Merchant and late City Treaſurer of Edinburgh Ruling Elders. City of Edinburgh, *George Drummond*, Eſq; Lord Provoſt thereof, *George Cuningham* Surgeon, and Deacon Conveener of the Trades. Univerſity of Edinburgh, *Andrew Plummer* Dr. of Medicine therein. Church of Campvere, Mr. *James Tair*, Miniſter; *Archibald MacAulay*, Eſq; Lord Conſervator, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Linlithgow, Mr. *Robert Dalgleiſh* at Linlithgow, Mr. *Robert Boyd* at Muiravenſide, Mr. *John Adams* at Falkirk, Mr. *Charles Wilkie* at Eccleſmachan, Miniſters; *George Dundas* of Dundas, and Mr. *William Somerville* of Dorator Advocate, Ruling Elders. Burgh of Linlithgow, Mr. *Archibald Stewart* Merchant and late one of the Baillies thereof. From the Preſbytery of Biggar, Mr. *James Forreſter* at Coulter, Mr. *Robert Jack* at Biggar, Miniſters *John Lindſay* from the Pariſh of Lamington, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Peebles, Mr. *Alexander Johnſton* at Lyne, Mr. *William Wallace* at Drumelzier, Miniſters, *Charles Hamilton* of Spittlehaugh, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dalkeith, Mr. *Thomas Turnbull* at Bornhwick, Mr. *David Plenderleith* at Dalkeith, Mr. *William Smith* at Cranſton, Miniſters; Mr. *Robert Dundas* younger of Arniſtoun Advocate, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Haddington, Mr. *Mathew Simſon* at Pencaitland, Mr. *John Cuming* at Humbie, Mr. *Charles Cuningham* at Tranent, Miniſters; Sir *Robert Sinclair* of Stevenſtoun, Ruling Elder. From the Burgh of North Berwick, Mr. *George Brown* of Colſtoun Advocate: From the Presbytery of Dumbar, Mr. *Wil-*

liam Orr, at Spott, Mr. *John Lundie* at Oldhamſtocks, Miniſters; *Alexander Hamilton* of Pencairland, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dunſe, Mr. *James Laurie* at Langtoun, Mr. *Robert Mouteith* at Longformacus, Miniſters; Mr. *Alexander Hume* of Eccles, one of his Majeſty's Solicitors, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Chirnſide, Mr. *Robert Waugh* at Hutton, Mr. *James Allan* at Eymouth, Mr. *Richard Bell* at Mordington, Miniſters; *John Couts* of Greenrigg, Eſq; late Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Kelſo, Mr. *Thomas Pollock* at Ednam, Mr. *Joſeph Leck* at Yetholm, Miniſters; *John Dawſon* in Herpertoun, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Jedburgh, Mr. *William Turnbull* at Abbotrule, Mr. *William Somerville* at Hawick, Mr. *Thomas Scott* at Cavers, Miniſters; the moſt Honourable the Marquis of *Lothian*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Earlſtoun, Mr. *Henry Home* at Channelkirk, Mr. *Alexander Duncan* at Smallholm, Miniſters; *George Peter* of Chappel, Ruling Elder. Burgh of Lauder, Mr. *Robert Kennedy* of Greenknow. From the Presbytery of Selkirk, Mr. *James Home* at Bowden, Mr. *James Brown* at Melroſs, Miniſters; Mr. *Andrew Pringle* younger of Haining Advocate, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Annan, Mr. *James Hunter* at Dornock, Mr. *James Currie* at Kirkpatrick-Fleeming, Miniſters; Mr. *Robert Dalrymple* of Preſtſide, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Langholm, Mr. *John Dickie* at Langholm, Mr. *Robert Petrie* at Canasbie, Miniſters; *Thomas Scot* of Coums, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Lochmaben, Mr. *John Nimmo* at Johnſton, Mr. *David Imrie* at Daltoun, Mr. *Edward Johnſton* at Moffat, Miniſters; Mr. *William Kilpatrick* of Eliesland, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Penpont, Mr. *William Moodie* at Glencairn, Mr. *John Collow* at Penpont, Miniſters; Mr. *James Erskine* junior Advocate, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dumfries, Mr. *John Scott* at Dumfries, Mr. *William M'Millan* at Torthorwall, Mr. *William Clark* at Kirkgunzean, Miniſters; the Right Hon. the Lord *Tinwald* Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Kirkcudbright, Mr. *John Welſh* at Anwoth, Mr. *John M'Naught* at Buttle, Mr. *Andrew Reid* at Carſfearn, Miniſters; *James Laurie* of Redcaſtle, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of Wigton, Mr. *Patrick Anderſon* at Penningham, Mr. *Robert Walker* at Mochrum, Miniſters; Doctor *Alexander Martine* of Littleaires Phyſician, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Stranrawer, Mr. *James Tweeddale* at Glenluce, Mr. *John Dickſon* at Newluce, Miniſters; Sir *Andrew Agnew* of Lochnaw Bart. Ruling Elder: Burgh of Stranrawer, Mr. *Andrew M'Doual*

of

of Kingſeat Advocate, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Air, Mr. *William Coats* at Dalmelington, Mr. *Robert Fiſher* at Maybole, Mr. *William Younger* at Muirkirk, Mr. *William Steel* at Sorn, Mr. *Samuel Walker* at Dalrymple, Miniſters; Mr. *David Dalrymple* Procurator for the Church and Mr. *William Wallace* Advocate, Ruling Elders. From the Presbytery of Irvine, Mr. *Alexander Smith*, at Cambry, Mr. *William Coats* at Kilmares, Mr. *Thomas M'Kinlay* at Srevenſton, Miniſters; the Right Hon. the Lord *Shewalton*, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Paiſly, Mr. *Henry Miller* at Neilſtoun, Mr. *James Lundie* at Erskine, Mr. *John Fleming* at Kilmacolm, Miniſters; Mr. *Archibald Campbell* of Elderſlie Writer to the Signet, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Hamilton, Mr. *William M'Culloch* at Cambuslang, Mr. *Thomas Cleland* at Cambusnethan, Mr. *James Hamilton* at Bothwell, Miniſters; *Daniel Campbell* of Shawfield, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Lanerk, Mr. *William Miller* at Carmichael, Mr. *Robert Davidſon* at Crawford-John, Mr. *William Nimmo* at Robertoun, Miniſters; *James White* of Overſtock-bridge, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Glaſgow, Mr. *John M'Laurin* at Glaſgow, Mr. *John Hamilton* at Barony, Mr. *John Erskine* at *Kirkintulloch*, Miniſters; *Thomas Wardrop* late Baillie of Glaſgow, Ruling Elder. City of Glaſgow, *John Murdoch*, Eſq; preſent Provoſt thereof; Univerſity of Glaſgow, Mr. *Niel Campbell*, Principal of the College of Glaſgow. From the Presbytery of Dumbarton, Mr. *James Robertſon* at Luſs, Mr. *George Sinclair* at Balfron, Mr. *James Bain* at Kilearn, Miniſters; Major *James Colquhoun* of Luſs, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dunoon, Mr. *Alexander M'Kay* at Dunoon, Mr. *Dougal Allan* at Innerchaulen, Miniſters; *John Campbell* of Orchard, Ruling Elder. From the Preſbytery of Kintyre, Mr. *John Campbell* at Killarow, Mr. *Gerſhom Stewart* at Arran, Miniſters; Mr. *Alexander M'Millan* of Dunmore, Writer to the Signet, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Inveraray, Mr. *Patrick Pollock* at South Knapdale, Mr. *Alexander Campbell* at Inveraray, Miniſters; *Colin Campbell* of Kilbride Eſq; Ruling Elder. Burgh of Inveraray, Capt. *John Campbell* of Limefield. From the Presbytery of Lorn, Mr. *Alexander M'Farlane* at Kilninver, Mr. *William Campbell* at Kilchrennan, Miniſters; Mr. *Charles Campbell* of Lochland Advocate, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Mull, Mr. *Archibald M'Niel* at Morvern, Mr. *John M'Lean* at Kilninean, Miniſters; *Hector M'Lean* of Torloisk, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dunkeld, Mr. *Alexander M'Lagan* at Little Dunkeld, Mr. *James Biſhop* at Kinclaven, Mr. *John Douglaſs* at Kenmuir, Mr. *James Gow* at Cargill, Miniſters;

Patrick

Patrick Small of Lianoch, and *Robert M'Intosh*, Agent for the Church, Ruling Elders. From the Presbytery of Perth, Mr. *John Warden* at Perth, Mr. *Andrew Gray* at Abernethy, Mr. *Andrew Williamson* at Arngosk, Mr. *David Craigie* at Scone, Ministers; Mr. *Robert Craigie* of Glendoig Advocate, *George Hay* of Leys, Ruling Elders. Burgh of Perth, *John Robertson* of Tulliebelton, Esq; present Provost of Perth. From the Presbytery of Stirling, Mr. *James Gordon* at Alloa, Mr. *William Walker* at Dollar, Ministers; Mr.---- *Abercrombie*, younger of Tulliebody Ruling Elder. Burgh of Stirling, Mr. *Patrick Haldane* of Bearcrofts Advocate, one of his Majesty's Sollicitors. From the Presbytery of Auchterarder, Mr. *Robert Drummond* at Auchterarder, Sir *William Moncrief* at Blackford, Mr. *Robert Menzies* at Comrie, Ministers; *James Graham* of Damside Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dumblane, Mr. *Archibald Napier* at Kilmadock, Mr. *John Smith* at Kincardine, Ministers; Sir *James Campbell* of Aberuchill, Baronet, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dumfermline, Mr. *Robert Stark* at Torriburn, Mr. *Robert Steedman* at Beath, Mr. *Thomas Gillespie* at Carnock, Ministers; Sir *George Preston* of Valleyfield Ruling Elder. Burgh of Dumfermline, *David Turnbull* Merchant there. Burgh of Culross, *Robert Geddes* Merchant, and one of the Baillies there of. Presbytery of Kirkcaldy, Mr. *John Currie* at Kinglassie, Mr. *Matthew Mitchell* at Auchterderran, Mr. *Henry Moir* at Auchtertool, Ministers; Mr. *Thomas Braid* Preacher of the Gospel, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Coupar, Mr. *George Gillespie* at Stramiglo, Mr. *William Smibert* at Kilmenie, Mr. *James Gillespie* at Abdie, Mr. *George Simson* at Falkland, Ministers; the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Leven, Mr. *Henry Barclay* of Cullerny, Ruling Elders. Burgh of Coupar, Mr. *James Lesly* Advocate, present Provost thereof. From the Presbytery of St. Andrews, Mr. *Thomas Kay* at Kilrennie, Mr. *John Ferrier* at Largo, Mr. *James Muirison*, Principal of the new College at St. Andrews, Mr. *John Chalmers* at Ely, Ministers; *James Fernie* Merchant, late Dean of Guild of St. Andrews, Baillie *Robert Waddel* Ship-builder in Anstruther Easter, Ruling Elders. University of St. Andrews, Mr. *Thomas Tullideph*, Principal of St. Leonard's College at St. Andrews. From the Presbytery of Meigle, Mr. *James Lyon* at Blairgourie, Mr. *David Thomson* at Airly, Mr. *Alexander Dun* at Bendochy, Ministers; *Thomas Gibson* of Muirtoun Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Forfar, Mr. *John Young* at Inverarity, Mr. *James Henderson* at Dunichen, Ministers; *James Carnegie* of Finhaven Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dundee, Mr. *John Stewart* at Tealing, Mr. *George Johnston* at Monikie,

Monikie, Mr. *George Lyon* at Longforgan, Miniſters; Baillie *John Jobſon* Merchant in Dundee Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Aberbrothwick, Mr. *James Small* at Carmylie, Mr. *William Dall* at Barry, Miniſters; *John Kenney* Ship-carpenter in Aberbrothwick Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Brichen, Mr. *Robert Stephen* at Craig, Mr. *William Davidſon* at Lethnot, Mr. *David Blair* at Brichen, Miniſters; *Robert Scot* of Duninald Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Fordoun, Mr. *William Thomſon* at Mary-kirk, Mr. *James Molliſon* at Eccleſgreig, Mr. *William Forbes* at Fordoun, Miniſters; *John Young* of Stank, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Aberdeen, Mr. *Alexander Shank* at Drummoak, Mr. *James Mitchell* at Oldmachar, Mr. *James Nicolſon* at Banchorydevonick, Mr. *John Gelly* at Nigg, Miniſters; the Rt. Hon. *William Grant* of Preſtongrange, Eſq; his Majeſty's Advocate, *Robert Stewart* late Provoſt of Aberdeen, Ruling Elders. King's College of Aberdeen, Mr. *John Lumſden* Profeſſor of Divinity therein. Mariſhal College of Aberdeen, Mr. *Robert Pollock* Profeſſor of Divinity therein. From the Presbytery of Kincardinoniel, Mr. *Alexander Garioch* at Midmar, Mr. *George Shepherd* at Tarland, Mr. *Lewis Reid* at Strathaen, Miniſters; Sir *Arthur Forbes* of Craigievar, Baronet, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Alford, Mr. *Theodore Gordon* at Kinnethmont, Mr. *James Lumiſden* at Towie, Mr. *Walter Syme* at Tillineſſle, Miniſters. From the Presbytery of Ellon, Mr. *Thomas Forbes* at Slains, Mr. *Alexander Knowles* at Methlick, Miniſters. From the Preſbytery of Garioch, Mr. *Alexander Simſon* at Monymusk, Mr. *John Angus* at Culſalmond, Mr. *Patrick Simpſon* at Kemnay, Miniſters; the Right Hon. the Lord Drumore Ruling Elder. Burgh of Kintore, *Thomas Dundaſs* younger of Fingask. From the Presbytery of Deer, Mr. *James Walker* at Peterhead, Mr. *John Syme* at Lonmey, Mr. *John Mercer* at Tyrie, Miniſters; the Right Hon. the Lord Strichen Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Turreff, Mr. *James Wilſon* at Gamrie, Mr. *Alexander Wilſon* at Alvah, Miniſters; *George Smith* in Gamrie Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Fordice, Mr. *Walter Moriſon* at Deskford, Mr. *James Anderſon* at Boyndie, Miniſters; *George Fordice* in Retty Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Strathbogie, Mr. *Walter Syme* at Mortlith, Mr. *Robert Innes* at Huntly, Miniſters; *William Duff* of Crombie Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Aberlour, Mr. *Thomas Gordon* at Dundurcas, Mr. *James Gray* at Rothes, Miniſters; the Right Hon. the Lord Elchies Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Abernethy, Mr. *William Grant* at Abernethy, Mr. *George Grant* at Kirkmichael, Miniſters.

From the Presbytery of Elgin, Mr. *Lauchlan Schaw* at Elgin, Mr. *George Gordon* at Alves, Miniſters; Baillie *Robert Grant* Merchant in Elgin Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Forreſs, Mr. *Alexander Roſe* at Nairn, Mr. *Robert Logan* at Rafford, Miniſters; *William Thomſon* in Forreſs Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Inverneſs, Mr. *Æneas Schaw* at Petty, Mr. *Patrick Grant* at Calder Miniſters; *John Fraſer* Provoſt of Inverneſs Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Chanonry, Mr. *John Wood* at Roſemarkie, Mr. *Donald Fraſer* at Kilearnan, Miniſters; *Alexander Gordon* of Ardoch Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Tain, Mr. *Daniel Beton* at Roſekeen, Mr. *Patrick Grant* at Logie-eaſter, Miniſters; the Hon. the Maſter of Roſs Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Dingwall, Mr. *Thomas Chiſholm* at Kilmorack, Mr. *Alexander Falconer* at Urquhart, Miniſters; *Albert Monro* of Coul Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Abertarph, Mr. *Thomas Montfod* at Kilmalie, Mr. *Duncan MacPherſon* at Laggan, Miniſters; Sir *Archibald Grant* of Monimusk, Ruling Elder. From the Presbytery of Sky Mr. *John M'Pherſon*, at Slait, Mr. *John MacLeod* at Diurniſh, Miniſters. From the Presbytery of Lewis, Mr. *Normand Moriſon* at Uig, Mr. *John Clark* at Stornavoy, Miniſters. From the Presbytery of Uiſt, Mr. *Donald MacLeod* at North Uiſt, Mr. *John MacAulay* at South Uiſt, Miniſters. From the Presbytery of Gairloch, Mr. *Æneas MacAulay* at Gairloch, Mr. *James Robertſon* at Lochbroom, Miniſters; *Kenneth MacKenzie* in Ballanocrae Ruling Elder, with his Grace *James* Duke of Athol, his Grace *Archibald* Duke of Argyle, the Moſt Honourable *John* Marquis of Tweeddale, the Right Hon. *James* Earl of Morton, the Right Honourable the Lord Minto, Lord Monzie, Ruling Elders, to be Commiſſioners of this General Aſſembly, to the Effects after-mentioned, with Power to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or their *Quorum*, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty-one of the ſaid Commiſſioners, whereof Twenty-one are always to be Miniſters, to meet and conveen within the Aſſembly-houſe at *Edinburgh*, the firſt Day after the Diſſolution of this Aſſembly, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, and thereafter the firſt *Wedneſday* of *Auguſt*, and ſecond *Wedneſdays* of *November* and *March* next to come, and oftner, when and where they ſhall think fit and convenient; with Power to the ſaid Commiſſioners to chuſe their own Moderator: And likeways the General Aſſembly fully impowers their ſaid Commiſſioners or their *Quarum* above-mentioned, to cognoſce and finally determine, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe, in every Matter referred, or that ſhall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Aſſembly, and to do every Thing contained in, and conform to the Inſtruc-

Instructions given, or to be given by this Assembly; and to advert to the Interest of the Church on every Occasion, that the Church, and present Establishment thereof, do not suffer or sustain any Prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be answerable: Providing always, that this General Clause be not extended to particular Affairs, or Processes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of universal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, That no private Processes be determined, except at the four stated Diets, and what shall be determined at one Diet of the Commission, with relation to private Causes, shall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and shall stand and continue in Force till disapproven by the General Assembly; and the General Assembly renews the Instructions given by the General Assembly, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and seventeen, to their Commission, and appoints the same to stand in full Force, as Instructions to the Commissioners before-named, and to be observed by them in all Points, as if the same were specially here insert: And that they inquire into the publishing and spreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of Opinions of whatever Kind, inconsistent with our *Confession of Faith*; and that the Recommenders of such Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word, Writ or Print, be called before the said Commission to answer for the same. And further, the said Commission is hereby impowered to receive any References and Appeals, that shall be made to them from Synods, in Matters of Doctrine, and ripen such Affairs for the General Assembly; and to contribute what they can to the suppressing of Vice and Immorality; and give all needful Advice and Assistance to Synods and Presbyteries, upon Application to them for that End: Likeways to take Care that the Impressions of the *Holy Scriptures*, *the Confession of Faith*, *and Catechisms*, and such Books as are authorised by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government thereof, be correct, and give Directions about printing the same. And the said Commission are appointed and impowered to keep a Correspondence with the Committee for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Islands*, for suppressing Popery and Superstition, and for promoting the Knowlege of true Religion, and carrying on a Reformation in these Parts, and give Assistance and Concurrence therein; and, if Need be, to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy, and speedy Redress. And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other Matters, than what are committed and referred to them, as abovementioned: And in all their actings, they are to proceed according to the Acts and Constitution of this Church, and

to

to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the ſame; declaring, that in, and for all their Actings, they ſhall be accountable to, and cenſurable by the next General Aſſembly, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe. And this Commiſſion is to continue and endure, untill another Commiſſion be appointed; and Members are required to attend the Diets of the ſaid Commiſſion, and Abſents therefrom ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th Act of the General Aſſembly, held in the Year One thouſand ſeven hundred and ſix; and for the better ſecuring of a *Quorum*, and Attendance of Members on the Commiſſion, the General Aſſembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, or any other Presbytery within twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commiſſion; and ſuch of the Members of theſe Presbyteries as are on the Commiſſion, are required, all of them, to give Attendance on the Diets thereof; and the Presbyteries at a greater Diſtance, who have four or more Members on the Commiſſion, are to take Care that at leaſt two of them attend each Diet of the ſame: And the Aſſembly appoint their Commiſſion, at their firſt Meeting, to diſcuſs as many of the Cauſes and Queſtions, relative to the Settlement of vacant Churches, which are or ſhall be referred to them by the Aſſembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, That when any Presbytery or Synod of this Church ſhall decline to comply with the Sentences of the Commiſſion, or to give the ſame a full Execution; in that Caſe, the Commiſſion is hereby prohibited to execute the ſame, by appointing any ſuch Correſpondent Meetings, as has been ſometimes the Practice, but ſhall allow the ſame to ly over to the enſuing Aſſembly, to which ſuch Presbyteries or Synods ſhall be anſwerable for ſuch their Conduct, and are hereby appointed to ſend up with their Commiſſioners their Reaſons for the ſame. And the Aſſembly do further impower and direct the ſaid Commiſſion to make due Application to the King and Parliament, for Redreſs of the Grievance of Patronage, in caſe a favourable Opportunity for ſo doing ſhall occur, during the Subſiſtence of this Commiſſion. And the General Aſſembly do enjoin their Commiſſion, that in paſſing their Sentences, and in ordering the Execution of the ſame, they ſtrictly obſerve the 12th Act of the Aſſembly 1736.

VI.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling-Elders for Reformation *of the* Highlands *and* Islands, *and for managing his Majesty's* Royal Bounty *for that End.*

Edinburgh May 23*d*, 1748. *Sess. Ult.*

THE General Assembly of the Church of *Scotland* do hereby nominate, commissionate, and appoint the Reverend Mr. *George Wishart*, one of the Ministers of Edinburgh, their Moderator, Mr. *Thomas Tullideph*, Principal of St. Leonard's, College at St. Andrews, Mr. *Niel Campbell* Principal of the University of Glasgow, Mr. *William Wishart* Principal of the College of Edinburgh, Mr. *John Lumsden* Professor of Divinity in the King's College of Aberdeen, Mr. *Robert Pollock* Professor of Divinity in the Marishal College of Aberdeen, Mr. *Andrew Shaw* Professor of Divinity in the University of St. Andrews, Mr. *John Gowdie* Professor of Divinity in the University of Edinburgh, Mr *John Hepburn* at Edinburgh, his Majesty's Almoner, Mr *Robert Wallace* at Edinburgh, Mr. *William Gusthart* there, Mr. *James Witherspoon* at Yester, his Majesty's Chaplains, Masters *James Walker* at Canongate, *James Nisbet* at Edinburgh, *John Guthrie* at Ratho, *John Mathison* at Edinburgh, *George Logan* there, *James Banatine* there, *George Fordyce* at Corstorphin, *Robert Kinloch* at Edinburgh, *John Glen* there, *Thomas Pitcairn* at West-kirk, *Patrick Cuming* at Edinburgh, *James Stevenson* there, *George Lindsay* at North Leith, *Robert Hamilton* at Edinburgh, *William Aitken* at South Leith, *Alexander Webster* at Edinburgh, *Frederick Carmichael* at Edinburgh, *Gilbert Hamilton* at Cramond, *William Bennet* at Duddingston, *Robert Walker* at South Leith, *George Kay* at West Kirk, *David Moubray* at Currie, *John Jardine* at Libberton, *Hugh Blair* at Canongate, *Alexander Bryce* at Kirknewton, *William Smith* in the Castle of Edinburgh, *John Hyndman* at Collington, *John Sutherland* at Golspie, *Robert Boyd* at Muraven-side, *Robert Monteith* at Longformacus, *John Nimmo* at Johnston, *John Dickson* at Newluce, *Thomas Cleland* at Cambusnetham,

John Campbell at Kilarow, *John Warden* at Perth, *Matthew Mitchell* at Auchterderran, *James Lyon* at Blairgowry, *John Angus* at Culſalmond, *Lauchlan Shaw* at Elgin, *Duncan M'Pherſon* at Laggan, *John Sutherland* at Hajkirk, *Thomas Turnbull* at Borthwick, *George Sinclair* at Balfron, *Alexander MacFarlane* at Kilninver, *James Biſhop* at Kinclayen, Sir *William Mouerief* at Blackfoord, *John Smith* at Kincardine, *Thomas Gilleſpie* at Carnock, *John Chalmers* at Elie, *James Small* at Carnylie, *James Gray* at Rothes, *Alexander Roſe* at Nairn, *Patrick Grant* at Calder, *Alexander Falconer* at Urquhart, *James Robertſon* at Lochbroom, and *Alexander Campbell* at Inverary, MINISTERS: His Grace *James* Duke of Athol; *Archibald* Duke of Argyle, the Moſt Hon. the Marquis of Lothian, the Right Hon. the Earl of Leven, the Right Hon. *William Grant* of Preſtongrange his Majeſty's Advocate, the Right Honourable the Lord Arniſton, Lord Elchies, Lord Drumore, Lord Monzie, Lord Tinwald, Lord Shewalton, Lord Murkle, Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh, Sir *Archibald Grant* of Monymusk, *James Milroy*, one of the preſent Bailies of Edinburgh, *George Cuningham* Surgeon in Edinburgh, *Archibald MacAulay*, Eſq; Lord Conſervator of the *Scots* Privileges at Campvere, Mr. *Robert Dundas* younger of Arniſton, Mr. *Andrew Pringle* younger of Haining, Mr. *James Erſkine, junior*, Advocate, Doctor *Alexander Martin* of Little-airies, Phyſician, Mr *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, *Robert MacIntoſh* Agent for the Church, *Hector MacLean* of Torloisk, *Albert Monro* of Coul, *John Paton* Bookſeller in Edinburgh, Captain *John Campbell* of Limefield, *John Forreſt* Merchant in Edinburgh, Mr. *James Davidſon* of Haltrie, *John Oſburn* late Lord Provoſt of Edinburgh, Doctor *Andrew Plummer*, Bailie *Alexander Blackwood* Merchant in Edinburgh, Mr. *Patrick Haldane* of Bearcroſts, one of His Majeſty's Sollicitors, Mr. *Alexander MacMillan* of Dunmore, Mr. *Charles Campbell* of Lochland, Mr. *Andrew MacDoual* Advocate, Mr. *Gilbert Elliot* younger of Minto, Baillie *James Stewart* Merchant in Edinburgh, Mr. *James Balfour* of Pilrig, *John Dickie* Accomptant in the Exciſe-Office, *John Balfour* Merchant in Leith, Mr. *Joſeph Williamſon* Advocate, and Mr. *James Graham* of Damſide, RULING-ELDERS; to be a Committee of this Aſſembly, for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands* of *Scotland*, for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, ſuppreſſing of Popery and Profaneneſs, and for managing the Royal Bounty given for theſe Ends, according to, and in Terms of his Majeſty's Grant to this Aſſembly, and the fifteenth Act of the Aſſembly 1746, and whole Acts therein-mentioned, and in Acts formerly made and referred to, in the Commiſſions granted

granted to former Committees, any five of the Persons above-named are declared to be a *Quorum*, whereof three to be Ministers: But it is hereby appointed, That, at the quarterly Meeting of the said Committee, when the Scheme or Establishment of Missionaries, for the Year ensuing, shall be approved and determined, nine Ministers and five Ruling Elders, at least, shall be a *Quorum*; and the said Committee are appointed to have their Meetings at *Edinburgh*, in the Hall of the Society in Scotland for propagating Christian Knowlege, the last *Thursday* of every Month, at Three of the Clock Afternoon, and also the first lawful Day after the Adjournment of the four stated Diets of the Commission of the General Assembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, except when it falls to be upon *Friday* or *Saturday*, and then the Meeting is to be upon *Monday* next thereafter, at the said Hour; with Power to the said Committee to adjourn themselves to such Times and Places as they shall find most needful and convenient; and they are to keep a Correspondence with the Commission of the General Assembly, and the Society for propagating Christian Knowledge, and their Committee of Directors, and take their Advice and Assistance. And the General Assembly do, by these Presents, nominate and appoint the said Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, to be Receiver of the foresaid Royal Bounty, and to pay out the same as he shall be directed and ordered by the said Committee, and according to their Rules. And the said Committee are appointed to examine the Accompts of the Distribution of the Royal Bounty, and lay the same before the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, or the Barons of his Majesty's Court of Exchequer, and to report their Diligence to the General Assembly, to whom they are to be accountable. And it is agreed, that no Person once employed, and insert in the Scheme, shall be struck out thereof for that Year, but by the *Quorum* of at least nine Ministers and five Ruling Elders: And in case any Complaint shall be made against any of them on the Scheme, it shall not be determined at the first Ordinary Meeting that the same is offered, but shall ly on the Table till another Meeting; and, in the mean Time, the Person complained of, and the Presbytery of the Bounds wherein he officiates, shall be acquainted of such Complaint, and these concerned be required to send to the said Committee a just Account of the Matter, against their next Meeting. And it is further appointed, That, after the yearly Scheme of Missionaries on the Royal Bounty is settled in Manner above-directed, and Notice thereof given by Letters to the Presbyteries concerned, such Presbyteries shall send up to the said Committee their Answers to these Letters, at farthest with their Commissioners, to the General Assembly, if the same

ſame be not done ſooner. And that the Committee, at their Meeting in *May*, ſhall name a Sub-committee of their Number, for preparing the next Year's Scheme, who are to lay their Draught thereof before a ſubſequent Meeting.

VII.

ACT appointing the Diet of the next General Aſſembly.

Edinburgh, May 23d, 1748. *Seſſ. ult*

THE next General Aſſembly of this national Church is appointed to be held in this Place upon the ſecond *Thurſday* of *May* next, being the 11th Day of that Month, in the Year 1749.

The General Aſſembly was concluded with Prayer, and ſinging a Part of the 89th Pſalm from the 15th to the 19th Verſe, and pronouncing the Bleſſing.

Collected and extracted from the Records of the General Aſſembly, by

ROBERT HAMILTON, *Cls. Eccl. Scot. Dept.*

Overture about Proceſſes againſt Probationers.

Edinburgh, May 19th, 1748. *Seſſ.* 7.

THE Committee for Overtures tranſmitted to the Aſſembly an Account of the Reports of Presbyteries ſent up this Year, anent the Overture concerning Proceſſes againſt Probationers, bearing, that fourteen of the Presbyteries are for paſſing it into an Act, three are for it with Amendments, twenty-one are againſt it, and one for delaying it; and the Aſſembly having cauſed to be read the 9th Act of the Aſſembly 1697, as alſo the certifying Clauſe at the End of the foreſaid Overture, did, after long Reaſoning, agree without a Vote, to tranſmit the ſaid Overture again to the ſeveral Presbyteries of this Church, without the ſaid certifying Clauſe; and, in place thereof in Time coming, appoint the following Rule to be obſerved, *viz. That all Presbyteries ſhall be put in mind by their ſeveral*

ſeveral Synods, at ſuch of their ſtated Meetings, as ſhall firſt be held after the riſing of each Aſſembly, to report their Diligence in preparing their Opinions and Anſwers concerning all Overtures (to be reported to future General Aſſemblies) to ſuch Meetings of their Synods, as ſhall be held immediately preceeding the Meetings of the General Aſſembly reſpective, and in Caſe, upon Inquiry, any Presbytery ſhall be found to have neglected this Part of their Duty, by preparing no ſuch Anſwer, the Synod, finding ſuch Inſtance of neglect, and no valid Excuſe offered and ſuſtained, ſhall cenſure the Presbytery ſo neglecting.

Overture about licenſing Probationers.

Edinburgh, May 20th, 1748. *Seſſ.* 8.

THE Committee for Overtures brought in their Report concerning the Number of Presbyteries, who have ſent up their Opinion to this Aſſembly upon the Overture tranſmitted to them by laſt and preceeding Aſſemblies, about the Manner of licenſing Probationers, and it appearing thereby, that Matters are not yet ready for its being paſt into an Act, the General Aſſembly agree to tranſmit the ſaid Overture to the ſeveral Presbyteries, to be further conſidered by them, and appoints that they ſend up their Opinion thereof to the next General Aſſembly, that the ſame, with the Amendments now propoſed, may be under their Conſideration.

Overture and Recommendation about Sermons on the Principles of the Reformation and Revolution.

Edinburgh, May 20th, 1748. *Seſſ.* 8.

THERE was tranſmitted, from the Committee for Overtures, an Overture of the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, and Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, which was read, and after ſome reaſoning, the General Aſſembly agreed to tranſmit the ſame to the ſeveral Presbyteries of this Church, to

be conſidered by them, and appoints that they report their Opinion thereupon to the next General Aſſembly, and, in the meantime, the Aſſembly recommends the Obſervation thereof by all the Miniſters of this Church, *the Tenor whereof follows*; *viz.* The General Aſſembly taking to their ſerious Conſideration the great Ignorance of many among us, concerning the Principles of our glorious Reformation from Popery, and of our preſent happy Eſtabliſhment ſince the Revolution, that Inſenſibility of the Bleſſings we enjoy by theſe great Events, which ſo ſadly prevails, that woful Indifference about the Purity of Religion and Diſaffection to our happy Conſtitution, and to the Perſon and Government of our moſt gracious Sovereign King *GEORGE*, into which too many are ſunk, and the unhappy Fruits of which we have ſo lately felt, and, in fine, that ungrateful forgetfulneſs of the Signal Mercies of God to theſe Lands, into which even the better Sort among us are too ready to fall, do therefore earneſtly beſeech and obteſt all the Miniſters of this Church to be diligent in inſtructing the People committed to their Care in theſe Principles of pure Chriſtianity that are particularly oppoſite to the Errors and Corruptions of Popery, and in the Grounds and Reaſons of the Reformation, and the Principles on which the late glorious Revolution and our preſent happy Eſtabliſhment are founded; and to ſtir up all to a gratefull Senſe and ſuitable Improvement of the ineſtimable Bleſſings we enjoy, by the free Exerciſe of the pure Religion of Jeſus, and the Security of our Liberties and Properties under a legal Government, and for theſe Purpoſes, and perpetuating the Memory of the great Things God has done for us in theſe Lands, the General Aſſembly do particularly appoint all the Miniſters of this Church to preach expreſsly, and on Purpoſe upon the Subjects above mentioned, or ſome of them on four Lord's Days every Year, *viz.* the firſt Lord's Day of the Months of *Auguſt*, *November*, *February*, and the third Lord's Day of *April*, with proper Exhortations to their People, ſuitable Prayers and Praiſes to our gracious God, in the Name of the only Mediator between God and Man, our Lord Jeſus Chriſt. And if any Circumſtance ſhall occur to render it particularly inconvenient to any Miniſter to preach on theſe Subjects, upon any one of theſe Lord's Days mentioned, he is hereby enjoined to be mindfull of it, the firſt Lord's Day after it, that he conveniently can.

Overture about the Psalmody.

Edinburgh, May 21st. 1748. *Sess.* 9.

UPON Report of the Committee for Overtures, the General Assembly agreed to remit the Translations and Paraphrases of Passages of sacred Scripture, with all the Amendments offered thereupon, to the Consideration of the Committee named by the last and preceeding Assemblies for that End, and added Mr. *George Blackwell* to their Number, which Committee are hereby instructed to prepare a State of the whole, to be laid before the next General Assembly; and 'tis recommended to Presbyteries or particular Members, to have this Matter under Consideration, and correspond thereanent with the Committee, as they shall see Cause. And the Assembly appoints, That the Remarks sent up at this Time be put in the Hands of the said Committee.

Proposals about Voters in Elections of Ministers.

Edinburgh, 23d *May* 1748. *Sess. ult.*

THERE was transmitted to the General Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*, from their Committee for Overtures, a Proposal for distinguishing the Respect in the Calling of Ministers, due to such as are known to express a suitable Regard to Religion and Gospel Ordinances, and excluding these who are of a contrary Character; and the General Assembly judging that this is a Matter which requires Deliberation, in order to concert the most proper Terms into which an Overture, to the above Effect, should be conceived, before it be transmitted from the Assembly to Presbyteries, agreed that the above Proposal be referred to the Commission of this Assembly, that they may take it under Consideration, and be impowered to receive what Helps may be transmitted to them from the several Presbyteries of this Church, in order

to

to their forming an Overture, to be laid before the next Aſſembly, that they may tranſmit it to the ſeveral Presbyteries, to have their Opinion reported, in order to the eſtabliſhing a ſtanding Rule on this Subject, if they ſhall ſee meet; and it is appointed that this be printed at the End of the Acts of this Aſſembly, and that the Commiſſion take it under Conſideration, at fartheſt, at their Meeting in *Auguſt* or *November* next.

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OF THE

Actings and Proceedings of the General Aſſembly of the Church of *Scotland*, held in the Year 1748, which are not printed at full Length.

AFTER Sermon by the Reverend Mr. *Robert Kinloch*, one of the Miniſters of *Edinburgh*; Moderator of the late General Aſſembly, the Miniſters and Ruling Elders, Members of this Aſſembly, did conveen, and Mr. *George Wiſhart*, one of the Miniſters of *Edinburgh*, and principal Clerk to the General Aſſembly, was put upon the Leet for Moderator, and, previous to the Election, it was agreed, that in caſe he be choſen Moderator his Office of Clerk be not thereby vacated, but that he be impowered to depute one whom the Aſſembly ſhall approve of, to act for him in that Office, untill the next General Aſſembly ſhall be conſtituted, and a new Moderator be choſen: And the ſaid Mr. *George Wiſhart* being choſen Moderator, he, in virtue of the above mentioned Power of Deputation, nominated Mr. *Robert Hamilton*, one of the Miniſters of *Edinburgh*, to act for him in his Office of Clerk, which being approved of by the General Aſſembly; Mr. *Hamilton* did accordingly take the principal Clerk's Chair. *May* 12th, *Seſſ.* 1.

The King's Commiſſion to *Alexander* Earl of *Leven* to repreſent His Majeſty's Royal Perſon in this Aſſembly, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

His Majeſty's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly read and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

The Commiſſioners Speech at opening this Aſſembly, and the Moderator's Speech in return thereto. *Ibid.*

The King's Warrand for 1000 *l. Sterling* as his Royal Bounty, for maintaining Itinerant Preachers and Catechiſts in the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*, given in by His Majeſty's Commiſſioner, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to draw an Anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Commiſſions to Members of this Aſſembly, cenſure Abſents from the Diets of Aſſembly, name Miniſters to preach before his Grace the

King's Commiſſioner, examine the Liſts of Probationers in the ſeveral Presbyteries, and receive in Liſts of Students in Divinity, at the ſeveral Univerſities, and report. *Ibid.*

Committee for Overtures named. *Ibid.*

Committee for Bills, References and Appeals, named. *Ibid.*

A Diet ſpent in Prayer. *May* 13th, *Seſſ.* 2.

Miniſters named to preach before his Grace the King's Commiſſioner. *Ibid.*

The Act 7th of the Aſſembly 1718, for the better Diſpatch of Buſineſs, read, and the Obſervation thereof enjoined. *Ibid.*

Reſolution, That by the Minute, relating to the Election of the Moderator, and the Power given him of deputing a Clerk, with the Approbation of the Aſſembly, is not meant that Mr. *Wiſhart* had, or that he, or any future Clerk, is to be underſtood to have a Power of deputing a Clerk to act for him, without the previous Allowance of the Aſſembly, and their Approbation of the Perſon deputed. *May* 14th, *Seſſ.* 3.

The Draught of an Anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly brought in and approven, and his Grace the Commiſſioner undertakes to tranſmit the ſame to His Majeſty. *Ibid.*

Reſolution to take under Conſideration upon *Tueſday* next, a Repreſentation given in to the Aſſembly from the Truſtees of the Fund, for a Proviſion to Miniſters Widows, &c. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to conſider a Letter from the Preſbytery of *Aberdeen*, relating to ſome Grievances, under which Mr. *James Mitchell*, Miniſter of *Old Machar*, labours, to converſe with Mr. *Mitchell* on the Subject, and report. *Ibid.*

A Committee of Perſons in each Synod appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Actings of the Commiſſion of the late Aſſembly, *audite* the Procurator and Agents Accompts, conſider the State of the Church's publick Money, and prepare Overtures about the ſame, agreeable to the 7th Act of the General Aſſembly 1712, and 8th Act of Aſſembly 1719, and all Petitions and Claims for any Part of the ſaid Money, ordered to be laid before the ſaid Committee, and they are alſo appointed to prepare any Overtures or References made by the late Commiſſion to this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Committee, named by the laſt Aſſembly, for managing the Royal Bounty, for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Iſlands*. *Ibid.*

Commit-

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Committees named for reviſing the Synod Books of *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*, *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*, *Argyle*, *Perth*, and *Stirling*, *Fife*, *Angus*, and *Mearns*, and *Glenelg*. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Orkney*, *Dumfries*, *Galloway*, *Glaſgow* and *Air*, *Aberdeen*, *Moray* and *Roſs*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, abſent, and reſolved that the Reaſons thereof being enquired into. *Ibid.*

The Committee for Overtures appointed to receive the Inſtructions from the ſeveral Presbyteries and Synods, and conſider the ſame and report. *Ibid.*

Reſolution to take in on *Monday* next an Appeal about the Settlement of the Pariſh of *Tongland*, and next to it a Reference from the Presbytery of *Glaſgow*, concerning Mr. *George Adam*, late Miniſter at *Cathcart*. *Ibid.*

Reſolution, That all Affairs of publick Concern be taken in as they can be got prepared, preferable to any private Cauſe. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee for reviſing Commiſſions brought in, containing their Remarks upon the Commiſſions from the Presbyteries of *Kelſo*, *Lochmaben*, *Dumfries*, *Dunkeld*, *Forreſs*, *Inverneſs*, *Dumbarton* and *Earlſtoun*, which are dated upon the firſt Day of *March*, being one Day more than a Month, preceeding the firſt of the forty Days before the Meeting of this Aſſembly, and the ſaid Commiſſions ſuſtained for this Time, but the Commiſſions from the Presbyteries of *Wigtoun* and *Kintyre*, a Member in each of which are not atteſted as qualified to be Members of Aſſembly, therefore are rejected, in ſo far as concern Mr. *John Campbell* at *Kilarow*, and Mr. *Robert Walker* at *Mochrum*, and a Recommendation to the other Presbyteries above-mentioned to be more exact in Time coming, in obſerving the Acts of Aſſembly, *May* 16th, *Seſſ.* 4.

The Sentence of the Synod of *Galloway*, affirming a Judgment of the Presbytery of *Kirkcudbright*, ſuſtaining a Call, by Heretors and Elders of the Pariſh of *Tongland*, to Mr. *Alexander Brown* Probationer, to be Miniſter of that Pariſh affirmed, and the ſaid Presbytery appointed to proceed to his Trials and Settlement with all convenient Diſpatch, according to the Rules of this Church. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to conſider a Reference from the Presbytery of *Glaſgow* to the Aſſembly, for Advice and Determination in the Caſe of Mr. *George Adam*, late Miniſter at *Cathcart*, who had judicially acknowledged his Guilt of Fornication with one *Iſobel Gemmel* his Servant, and who was depoſed from the Office of the Miniſtry, and did thereafter undergo a Courſe of

of Diſcipline before the Congregation in *Catheart*, on which Occaſion, as well as ſince that Time, he has given great Evidence of his Penitence, inſo much, that upon the Application of the whole Elders of that Pariſh, the Presbytery did take off the Sentence of Depoſition, being all ſatisfied of his unfeigned Sorrow and deep Concern for his Sin as well as his edifying Converſation. That ſince his being reponed, the Patron, the whole Heretors and Elders, and other Pariſhoners, have ſignified their earneſt Deſire to have him reſtored to the Exerciſe of his Miniſtry in the ſaid Pariſh as formerly. *Ibid.*

The Repreſentation of the Truſtees for managing the Fund for a Proviſion to Miniſters Widows, *&c.* containing ſome Amendments propoſed to be made to the late Act of Parliament eſtabliſhing the ſaid Fund read, and the following Amendments therein propoſed agreed to by the Aſſembly, *viz.* FIRST; *That if any Miniſter or Profeſſor ſhall happen to die, before he hath paid for Support of the Fund, a Sum equal to three Years of the Annuity, correſponding to the annual Rate to which he was ſubjected, then and in that Caſe there ſhall be deduced from the Annuity due to his Widow, or the Stock due to his Children, ſuch a Sum, as together with the Rates paid or due by him, (without computing Intereſt thereon) ſhall make up or be equal to three Years of the ſaid Annuity.*

Provided always, *That ſuch Deduction from the Widows Annuity ſhall be made, by retaining only one half thereof, till the ſaid Deficiency be made good to the Fund.*

SECONDLY; *That the Rates, and other Sums payable for Support of the Fund, ſhall be annually applied to the Uſes aftermentioned, viz. in the firſt Place, for Payment of the General Collector and Clerks Salaries, and the incidental Charges of the Truſtees; in the ſecond Place, for increaſing the Stock, by lending* 30 L. *to each Miniſter and Profeſſor, who ſhall have become ſubject to one or other of the annual Rates, and thereafter raiſing the Capital of* L. 35000, *that is to ſay,* L. 3000 *ſhall be ſo applied at each* Whitſunday *preceeding* Whitſunday 1755, L. 2000 *at* Whitſunday 1755, *and every* Whitſunday *thereafter preceeding* Whitſunday 1759, L. 1000 *at* Whitſunday 1759, *and every* Whitſunday *thereafter preceeding* Whitſunday 1765, L. 500 *at* Whitſunday 1765, *and every* Whitſunday *thereafter preceeding* Whitſunday 1780, *and* L. 200 *at* Whitſunday 1780, *and every Year thereafter till each Contributor has received* L. 30, *and the foreſaid Capital of* L. 35000 *is made up; in the third Place, for Payment of the Widows Annuities, and the ſeveral Sums*

due to Children; and lastly, the after Surplus shall be applied to the foresaid Purposes of lending to Contributors, and increasing the Capital as above.

THIRDLY; *That when the Capital of* 35000, *over and above the Sums lent to Ministers and Professors, shall be made up, the Surplus arising in any one Year, computing the Year from* Martinmas *to* Martinmas, *shall, at the* Whitsunday *when such Surplus shall arise, be divided amongst all the Widows then intitled to Annuities, and amongst all the Children of the Ministers of the Church, and of the Heads, Principals and Masters of the Universities, who, in respect of the Death of their Father, or the Death or Marriage of his Widow, shall be then intitled to receive their Provisions; and that, in such Division, each Widow and Child shall receive such a Share or Sum, as is in Proportion to the annual Rates of their deceased Husbands or Fathers.*

Provided always, *That it shall and may be lawful for the General Assembly, or, failing of them, for the Trustees, with Advice and Consent of the Lord President, and two of the senior Judges of the Court of Session, the Lord Chief Baron and Senior Baron of the Court of Exchequer, and of the Lord Justice General, and Lord Justice Clerk for the Time being, or any three of them, to apply the foresaid Surplus from time to time for increasing the Capital of* L. 35000 *to* L. 50000, *in case there shall be good Ground to apprehend, that the Number of Widows or Children, to be provided for may at length be so great, as to require such an Addition to the Capital, of which Necessity the Assembly, or failing of them the Trustees, with Advice and Consent foresaid, are to be declared the Judges.*

FOURTHLY; That, in order to the more speedy and effectual levying of the annual and other Rates, and with least Expence to Ministers and Masters in Universities, it be enacted, *That general Letters of Horning be issued from the Court of Session, at the General Collector's or Receiver's Instance, against Ministers and Professors respectively, for Payment of their annual Rates, and Interest thereof, to which they are, or shall be subjected, and of the Interest of the Sums lent to them upon Bond, and any other Sum or Sums to which any of them are, or may be liable in virtue of this Act, and that no Suspension be past without Consignation.*

FIFTHLY; *That the Clause respecting the Time when Ministers or Professors, hereafter to be ordained, or admitted to Benefices in the Continent, are to make their Election of the yearly Rate to which they chuse to be subject, should be limited to the* 15*th of* January *that shall first happen, after such Ministers*

or Professor's have had Right to one half Year's Benefice or Salary, or have held their Office for four Calendar Months.

SIXTHLY; *That the four annual Meetings of the Trustees, now appointed to be held in the Old Church Isle, should be appointed to be held in the Trustees Hall, and a Resolution being entered into.* That humble Application be made to the Legislature, next Session of Parliament, for obtaining an Act, or Clause of an Act, authorising and establishing the Particulars beforementioned into a Law; a Committee was named to concert in what Manner this Application may be made, *May* 17th *Sess.* 5th.

The Report of the Committee for Overtures, anent the Overture transmitted by last Assembly, about calling of Ministers to vacant Parishes, and the Draught of an Act proposed by the Committee, to be made in Consequence thereof, brought in, and the Consideration thereof delayed till To-morrow. *Ibid.*

A Sum not exceeding 8 *l. Sterl.* of the publick Money allowed to bear the Expence of a Process for Reparation of the Minister of *Old-machar*'s Manse, and the Procurator for the Church appointed to use his utmost Care and Diligence to bring that Cause to a Conclusion. *May* 18th, *Sess.* 6th.

The Report of the Committee named to have under Consideration the Case of Mr. *George Adam*, late Minister at *Cathcart*, brought in, and the Assembly having fully heard and considered the Representation and Reference concerning him, with what was verbally laid before them by several Ministers of the Presbytery of *Glasgow*, and Synod of *Glasgow* and *Air*, and other Reverend Ministers of this Assembly, *resolved*, that this Case, in its so peculiarly favourable Circumstances, deserved to be distinguished from others, and therefore, without derogating from the Force and general Obligation of the Laws and Regulations of this Church, in her Acts and Form of Process, whereby Presbyteries are bound up from reponing Ministers deposed for Immoralities, to their former Charge, but expresly ratifying and confirming them, *Did* specially allow and authorise the Presbytery of *Glasgow* again to settle Mr. *George Adams* in the Parish of *Cathcart*, in case proper Application be hereafter made to them for that Effect; they always proceeding according to the Rules of this Church, in the same Form as would have been done, in case Mr. *Adams* had not been settled in that Church before. At the same Time, it is declared, that no Minister, deposed for Immortality, shall be capable of being restored to his former Charge, in any Circumstance whatsoever, without the special Authority of the General Assembly appointing it. *Ibid.*

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Petition of the Presbytery of *Auchterarder*, craving that an Allowance be granted out of the publick Funds of the Church, for enabling Mr. *Patrick Provand* Minister of *Trinity Gask*, to bring to a Conclusion a Process presently depending for his Stipend, remitted to the Consideration of the Committee on the publick Accompts. *Ibid.*

A Petition of Mr. *Walter Hart* Minister at *Preston* and *Bunkle*, craving some small Share of the publick Money, for enabling him to bring to an Issue, a Process of Modification and Locality now depending for his Stipend, is referred to the said Committee, *Ibid.*

A Petition of the Presbytery of *Lorn*, craving an Order for carrying on a Process at the publick Charge, for maintaining the Right of Mr. *William Campbell* Minister of *Kilchrenan* to his Glebe, for which he has a Decreet of the said Presbytery, (but a Suspension thereof is obtained by the Heretors,) is also referred to the said Committee. *Ibid.*

A Petition and Recommendation of the Presbytery of *Invernes* and Synod of *Murray*, in Behalf of Messrs. *Alexander Fraser* and *Alexander Mac Bean*, Ministers at *Invernes*, for intenting and carrying on a Process at their Instance for recovering of Stipend, which, for some Years past, has been partly detained from them, is also remitted to the said Committee. *Ibid.*

A Recommendation of the Synod of *Aberdeen*, in favours of Mr. *John Angus* Minister of *Culsalmond*, for his being reimburled out of the publick Money, of certain Expences laid out by him in a Process for his Stipend depending some Years ago, is also remitted to the forelaid Committee. *Ibid.*

A Petition of the Commissioners from the Presbyteries of *Dornock* and *Caithness*, craving an Order for Payment to them of a Viaticum for their Attendance on this Assembly, and that one Commissioner at least, from each of the said Presbyteries, be hereafter entitled to the like Allowance annually for their Attendance on the Assemblies, is also remitted to the said Committee. *Ibid.*

An Overture, transmitted from the Committee for Overtures, with respect to the applying to the King for obtaining an Allowance to employ his Majesty's Royal Bounty of 1000 *l.* towards making new Erections of Parishes in the *Highlands* and *Islands*, and, after hearing what Steps were taken by the last Assembly and their Commission, and Committees for that Effect, a Committee is named to have that Matter under Consideration. *Ibid.*

An Overture from the Synods of *Glasgow* and *Air*, and *Galloway*, about applying to the Legislature, for obtain-

ing an Augmentation to Miniſters Stipends in *Scotland*, brought in with the Opinion, that the Aſſembly appoint a Committee to have that Affair under Conſideration, and to bring in an Overture thereupon to the Aſſembly; and upon a Queſtion whether to appoint that Committee or not, it was carried not, and therefore the ſaid Overture and Propoſal was rejected. *Ibid.*

Overture about the Calling of Miniſters to vacant Pariſhes approven. *Ibid.*

Remit to the Committee for Overtures to conſider any Inſtructions already given in, or that may be yet propoſed, for better aſcertaining who ſhall vote at the Calling of Miniſters to vacant Pariſhes. *Ibid.*

Reſolution to be obſerved as a Rule in Time coming, That when the Rolls are called over in order to voting, no Member happening to be omitted ſhall have Liberty to vote, unleſs he ſtand up and claim his Vote in his Place, or while the Commiſſioner's Names from his Presbytery or Synod are calling over, and Appointment, that when the Clerk wants to be informed how a Vote is given the Perſon who gave it ſhall be again called upon, and he is to ſtand and ſpeak up his Vote. *May 19th Seſſ. 7th.*

A Repreſentation of the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns*, proceeding upon a Petition of the Presbytery of *Meigle*, craving that the Procurator for the Church may be appointed to appear in Support of the Privileges of the ſaid Church Judicatories, in a Caſe now depending before them, concerning the Schoolmaſter of *Alyth*, who is libelled for Diſloyalty, and the Cauſe advocated to the Court of Seſſion, is remitted to the Committee on the Publick Accompts. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee appointed to meet with the Truſtees of the Fund for a Proviſion to Miniſters Widows brought in and read, and the Moderator impowered to write, in the Aſſembly's Name, to the Right Honourable the High Lord Chancellor of *Great Britain*, the Right Honourable the Speaker of the Houſe of Commons, and the Secretaries of State, acquainting them with the propoſed Amendments to the Scheme, and to ask, in the moſt dutiful Manner, their Aſſiſtance for obtaining an Act or Clauſe in an Act of Parliament to render the ſame effectual. --- It is remitted to the Truſtees to petition the King, and both Houſes of Parliament, in the Aſſembly's Name, in ſuch Method as they ſhall be adviſed will be moſt proper, and to employ an Agent for negotiating that Affair, and do every Thing neceſſary for carrying the Aſſembly's Deſign into Execution. And the Commiſſion are appointed to give their Advice and Aſſiſtance to the Truſtees in every Thing wherein they ſhall find neceſſary to apply to them, and it is recommend-

mended to Presbyteries and Ministers of this Church to wait upon the Members of Parliament as they have Opportunity, and humbly to ask their Countenance and Concurrence for obtaining the Sanction of the Legislature to what is proposed. *Ibid.*

The Trustees authorised and impowered to lend out upon Bond the Sum of 30 *l.* to each Minister and Professor who happens to be resting two Years annual Rates preceeding *Candlemas* last, and that sooner than they would fall to receive the same, according to the Course hitherto followed, to the End such Ministers and Professors may thereby be enabled to pay up the bygone Arrears of their annual and other Rates and Interest incurred. *Ibid.*

Overture about Processes against Probationers. *Ibid.*

Report of the Visitors of the Commission-book brought in, the Members of the said Commission thanked for their Faithfulness and Diligence in what was committed to them, their Book ordered to be attested, and all Causes not discussed by them referred to the Commission to be appointed by this Assembly. *Ibid.*

The Members from the Presbyteries within the several Synods appointed to meet by themselves in order to bring in the Nominators of the Commission of this Assembly, according the 6th Act of Assembly 1705. *Ibid.*

The Sentence of the Synod of *Glasgow* and *Air*, refusing to appoint the Presbytery of *Paisley* to proceed to the Settlement of Mr. *James Campbell* Probationer, as Minister of the Abbey Parish of *Paisley*, affirmed, and the said Presbytery directed to appoint the Moderation of a Call at large for supplying the said Vacancy. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to bring in an Overture concerning what was pled Yesterday at the Bar, and lodged in the Process, touching the Character of *Mr. Campbell*, Candidate for the Abbey Parish of *Paisley*. *May* 20th, *Sess.* 8.

A List of Members from the several Synods brought in, and appointed, as a Committee, to draw the Commission and Instructions, and name the Members of the Commission of this Assembly. *Ibid,*

Overture about licencing Probationers. *Ibid.*

Overture about Sermons on the Principles of the Reformation and Revolution. *Ibid.*

The Accompts of the Procurator and Agents for the Church, with the Report of the Committee who examined the same, produced, and ordered to ly upon the Table to be perused by Members. *Ibid.*

The Sentence of the Synod of *Fife*, affirming a Judgment of the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, sustaining a Call to Mr, *Thomas Fernie*, one of the Ministers of *Dumfermline*, to be one of the Ministers of *Culross*, and rejecting a Pre-

ſentation by Mr. *Charles Cochran*, claiming to be Patron of that Pariſh, to Mr. *William Trotter* Probationer to be Miniſter thereof, affirmed, and the Presbytery appointed to proceed in a Proceſs for Mr. *Fernie*'s Tranſportation and Settlement, as one of the Miniſters of the Town and Pariſh of *Culroſs*, with all convenient Speed, according to the Rules of this Church. *Ibid.*

Order for ſummoning Mr. *Charles Cochran* of *Culroſs* to appear at the Bar of the Aſſembly, To-morrow at 11 o'Clock Forenoon, to anſwer for his Conduct in emitting Expreſſions, containing an open and groſs Accuſation againſt Mr. *Hardie* Miniſter of *Culroſs*, and for the Indignity done to his Majeſty's High Commiſſioner, and to the Aſſembly by emitting theſe Expreſſions in their Preſence. *Ibid.*

Report of the Committee appointed to conſider the Caſe relating to Mr. *James Campbell* Probationer, Candidate for the Abbey Pariſh of *Paiſley* brought in, and the Aſſembly conſidering that certain Things had been thrown out in the Courſe of the Proceſs, and pleading of Parties tending to raiſe Suſpicions of Mr. *Campbell*'s Loyalty, declared, from all that was laid before them, there did not appear juſt Foundation for theſe Suſpicions, and that it is the Aſſembly's Opinion, no regard be had to ſuch Suſpicions, unleſs, upon a previous Trial and Enquiry, there be found Ground for them. *May* 21ſt *ante merid. Seſſ.* 9.

Mr. *Charles Cochran* compeared and acknowleged, that he had not ſufficient Proof for ſaying Yeſterday what he had ſpoke out relating to Mr. *Hardie*, and, being rebuked and admoniſhed from the Chair, the Affair was dimiſſed. *Ibid.*

Report of the Truſtees appointed by Act of Parliament, for managing the Fund for a Proviſion to Miniſters Widows produced, and ordered to ly upon the Table till another Sederunt. *Ibid.*

Overture about the Tranſlations and Paraphraſes of ſeveral Pieces of Sacred Scripture. *Ibid.*

The Conſideration of an Overture tranſmitted from the Committee for Overtures, anent Perſons claiming a Vote in the Calling of Miniſters delayed. *Ibid.*

An Overture tranſmitted from the Committee for Overtures, about allowing Viaticums out of the publick Money, read, and the Aſſembly ordered that the 6 *l. Sterl.* formerly allowed for a Viaticum for one Commiſſioner yearly from each of the Presbyteries of *Lorn*, *Mull*, *Abertarph*, *Tong*, *Kirkwall*, *Cairſton* and *North Iſles*, be divided betwixt them and the Presbyteries of *Gairloch*, *Dornoch* and *Caithneſs*, and that the Viaticum in Time coming to one Commiſſioner from each of all theſe Presbyteries, be reſtricted to 4 *l. Sterl. Ibid.*

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The Report of the Committee appointed to consider the Proposal about applying his Majesty's Royal Bounty of 1000 *l.* towards new Erections, brought in and agreed to, and a Committee named to petition his Majesty in such Method as they shall be advised will be most proper, that his Majesty may be pleased to direct the Application of his Royal Bounty, for Reformation of the Highlands and Islands of *Scotland*, to the Erection of new Parishes, and providing Stipends for the Ministers to be settled in them, and the Commission are appointed to give their Advice and Assistance to the said Committee. *Eod. die post meridiem Sess.* 10.

The Sentence of the Synod of *Lothian*, affirming a Judgment of the Presbytery of *Dumbar*, sustaining a Call to Mr. *David Spence* Probationer, to be Minister of *Cockburnspath* affirmed; and the said Presbytery appointed to proceed to the Trials and Settlement of the said Mr. *David Spence*, as Minister of the Parish of *Cockburnspath* with all convenient speed, according to the Rules of this Church. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, to take in, cognosce and finally determine at their first Meeting after rising of the Assembly, an Appeal of Mr. *Gilbert Man* Minister at *Monedie*, from the Sentence of Deposition past against him by the Synod of *Perth* and *Stirling*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, to cognosce, and finally determine in an Appeal, by *Edward Maxwell* Merchant in *Dumfries*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Dumfries*, affirminga Sentence of the Presbytery of *Dumfries*, refusing to assoilzie him from a Process against him, for an alledged scandal of Fornication with one *Janet M'Lochrie*. *Ibid.*

The Committee named for considering the Proposal for new Erections, appointed to meet at six o'Clock in the Society's-hall, with Power to adjourn, and appoint their own Times and Places of meeting thereafter, *May* 23*d. Sess. ult.*

A Representation and Petition of Mr. *John Mathie* Minister at *Colleſſie*, complaining of certain disorderly Practices of two Elders of his Parish, is referred to the Commission. *Ibid.*

An Appeal of *Samuel Rowan* in *Annan*, from a Sentence of the Synod of *Dumfries*, affirming a Judgment of the Presbytery of *Annan*, laying him under the Sentence of lesser Excommunication, upon an Alledgiance of his being guilty of Uncleanness with one *Janet Beatty*, is referred to the Commission to be taken in, next to the Petition of Mr. *John Mathie*. *Ibid.*

Report of the Committee for naming the Members of the Commission, and drawing Instructions to them, brought in, and approven. *Ibid.*

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The Report of the Viſitors of the Regiſter of the Committee, appointed by the Commiſſion of laſt Aſſembly, for managing the Royal Bounty, for Reformation of the Highlands, &c. brought in, and no Remarks being offered, the ſaid Regiſter was ordered to be atteſted. *Ibid.*

The Draught of a Commiſſion to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, brought in, and approved of. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, his Intromiſſions, with his Majeſty's Allowance for defraying the publick Charges of the Church, for the Terms of *Chriſtmaſs* 1746, *Ladyday*, *Midſummer*, *Michaelmas* and *Chriſtmaſs* 1747; and appointing a Balance of 77 *l.* 16 *s.* ⅓ *Sterl.* in his Hands, to be charged in his next Accompt *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of *Robert M'Intoſh* Agent for the Church, and Sub-clerk to the General Aſſembly, and appointing that he have Credit, in his next Accompt, for the Ballance of 22 *l.* 11 *s.* 1 *d.* ⅓ *Sterl.* due to him. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompt of *John Baillie* Agent for the Church, and appointing that he have Credit, in the next Accompt, for the Balance of 5 *l.* 2 *s.* *Sterl.* due to him. *Ibid.*

Order for Payment of an Accompt due to the Printers for the Church, amounting to 20 *l.* 18 *s.* 4 *d.* *Sterl*, *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee upon the publick Accompts, brought in, and approven; and the Aſſembly referred to the Commiſſion, to examine the State of the publick Funds, and hear the Commiſſioners from the Presbytery of *Meigle* and Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns*, upon the Subject, Matter of their Petition, and other Papers therewith produced, relative to the School-maſter of *Alyth*. *Ibid.*

Order for Payment of 6 *l.* *Sterl.* of Viaticum to the Commiſſioners, from each of the Presbyteries of *Mull*, *Abertarph*, *Gairloch*, *Dornoch* and *Caithneſs*, for their Attendance on this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Procurator and Agents for the Church, appointed to commence and carry on the neceſſary Proceſs, at the publick Charge, for obtaining Payment of Stipends to the Miniſters of *Inverneſs*. *Ibid.*

A Sum not exceeding 10 *l.* *Sterl.* of the Churches Money, allowed for defraying the Expence of a Proceſs depending for Stipend to the Miniſter of *Trinity Gask*, of which a particular Accompt ſhall be exhibited to the Aſſembly or Commiſſion, after the Proceſs is fully finiſhed. *Ibid.*

The Sum of 10 *l.* *Sterl.* allowed to Mr. *John Angus* Miniſter of *Culſalmond*, towards his Relief. *Ibid.*

A Sum not exceeding 5 *l.* *Sterl.* allowed to defray the Expence of a Proceſs depending for a Stipend to the Miniſter of *Preſton* and *Bunkle*. *Ibid.*

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The Procurator, and Agents for the Church, appointed, at the publick Charge, to ſupport the Miniſter of *Kilbrennan*'s Title to his Glebe, to which he has Right by a Decreet of Presbytery, now under Suſpenſion before the Court of Seſſion. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to Miniſters, whoſe Proceſſes are carried on at the publick Expence, to pay the Poſtages of all Letters ſent by them to the Agents, concerning ſuch Proceſſes. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Truſtees for managing the Fund for a Proviſion to Miniſters Widows reproduced, containing a State of the Fund under their Management, and an Account of their Proceedings ſince laſt General Aſſembly, and ordered to be recorded in the ſeparate Regiſter kept for that Purpoſe. *Ibid.*

The Petition of Mr. *Robert Glen* Miniſter at *Lochgoylhead*, praying, that in reſpect of his peculiar Circumſtances, the Aſſembly would direct the Truſtees of the Fund for Miniſters Widows &c, to let him have the Loan of 30 *l.* upon Bond preſently, without abiding the Courſe of the Roll or Order eſtabliſhed, remitted to the Conſideration of the ſaid Truſtees. *Ibid.*

A Petition of certain Highlanders reſiding in and reſorting to the City of *Edinburgh* and Suburbs, craving, that the Aſſembly would direct the Managers of the Royal Bounty, or recommend to the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, to grant an Allowance of 10 *l.* for an additional Encouragement to what they contribute themſelves for a Perſon to preach, and otherways inſtruct them in their own Language, remitted to the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, to make proper Enquiry into the neceſſity of employing a Preacher, in, or about the City, having the *Iriſh* Language. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to all Miniſters of this Church, deficient in collecting at the Church Doors in their ſeveral Pariſhes, purſuant to the Act of laſt Aſſembly for the Society in *Scotland*, for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, yet, to intimate the ſaid Act, and tranſmit their Contributions to Mr. *James Davidſon* of *Haltree*, Treaſurer to the foreſaid Society. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion, to cognoſce and finally determine in an Appeal of *James Watſon* Merchant in *Glaſgow*, and *Mary Falla* his Spouſe, from a Sentence of the Presbytery of *Glaſgow*, laying them under the Sentence of the greater Excommunication, on Account of their inceſtuous Marriage; ſhe being the ſaid *James Watſon*'s former Wife's Brother's Daughter. *Ibid.*

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A Reference from the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, of a Proceis brought before them, by Appeal from the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, concerning *Michael Bell* joint Town Clerk of *Linlithgow*, for the Scandal of Adultery and Bigamy, is referred to the Commiſſion, with Power to them to determine therein, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe. *Ibid.*

A Propoſal about Voters in Election of Miniſters referred to the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

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The Synod Book of *Merſe* and *Teviotdale* atteſted, with a Recommendation to their Clerk to be more exact in taking down the Proceedings of the Synod, and engroſſing the ſame in their Regiſter. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Argyle* atteſted with a Recommendation to the Synod, to direct their Clerk to be more exact in the ſpelling of ſeveral Words in the Regiſter, and ſend it up yearly to be reviſed by the Aſſembly; and the Synod is enjoined to cauſe the Names of the ſeveral Presbyteries in their Bounds to be inſert, agreeable to what they are in the publick Acts of the General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The Synod Book of *Angus* and *Mearns* atteſted. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commiſſion to Call the Viſitors of the Synod Book of *Fife* to account for not giving in their Report; and the Commiſſion are empowered, if they ſee Cauſe, to order the ſaid Book to be atteſted. *Ibid.*

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The Synod Book of *Glenelg* atteſted, with this Direction, that they be more careful hereafter in keeping their Regiſter exact, and to attend better on the Meetings of their Synod. *Ibid.*

The Synod-books of *Dumfries*, *Galloway*, *Glaſgow*, and *Air* and *Aberdeen*, *Murray*, *Roſs*, *Orkney*, and Presbytery-book of *Zetland*, not being brought up, are appointed to be produced to the next Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

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ther Miſcarriages mentioned in the ſaid Sentence, and the ſaid Appeal declared to be deſerted and fallen from. *Ibid.*

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The Moderator's Speech to the Aſſembly, and to his Majeſty's Commiſſioner. *Ibid.*

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